

REMARKS

The application includes claims 1, 3-26, 28-31, 33, and 34 prior to entering this amendment. The Examiner rejected claims 1, 3-6, 8, 20, 21, and 23-25 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Edd (U.S. Patent 7,325,193) and Ginter (U.S. 5,892,900). Applicants amend claims 1 and 15 and, cancel claims 14 and 20-25. Claims 1, 3-13, 15-19, 26-31, and 33-34 remain in the application after entering this amendment. Applicants add no new matter and request reconsideration.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants thank the Examiner for allowing claims 9-13, 26, 28-31, 33, and 34. The Examiner objected to claims 14-19 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but indicated that they would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. To expedite prosecution, Applicants have elected to amend claim 1 with the claim features of claim 14, which places claims 1, 3-13, 15-19, 26-31, and 33-34.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 3-6, 8, 20, 21, and 23-25 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Edd and Ginter. As discussed above, Applicants have amended claim 1 with claim features the Examiner deemed allowable with respect to dependent claim 14. To expedite the issuance of this application, Applicants have canceled claims 20-25. Since all of the claims (1, 3-13, 15-19, 26-31, and 33-34) remaining in the application are in condition for allowance, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner withdraw the instant rejections and allow the application.

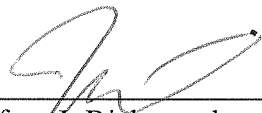
CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, the applicants request reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims. The applicants encourage the examiner to telephone the undersigned if it appears that an interview would be helpful in advancing the case.

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Respectfully submitted,

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